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DRVN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY HOLDS 6th SESSION POLITICAL REPORT

By Premier PHAM VAN DONG



PRESIDIUM OF THE SESSION
(Far-end, a bust of President HO CHI MINH)

THE National Assembly of the DRVN (Third Legislature), has held its 6th session in Hanoi to review the internal and foreign affairs over the past period and consider and decide on directives for the people and State to follow in the new situation of the resistance against US aggression, for national salvation, and socialist construction in North Viet Nam.

After the opening speech of Truong Chinh, Chairman of the DRVN National Assembly Standing Committee, Premier Pham Van Dong delivered the Political Report of the Council of Ministers. (See Page 8)

The National Assembly then heard another report submitted by Vice-Premier Nguyen Con on "the immediate economic tasks and the 1970 State plan."

It also heard the reports of General Vo Nguyen Giap, Vice-Premier and Minister of National Defence, on the country's military affairs, of Nguyen Duy Trinh, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister, on the nation's diplomatic position, and of State Minister Xuan Thuy, on the Paris Conference and the work of the DRVN government delegation.

Pham Van Bach, President of the People's Supreme Court, read a report on the State's legal work, and Hoang Quoc Viet, President of the People's General Prosecution, another on the activities of his department.

The deputies were afterwards divided into groups to study and discuss these reports before meeting again in plenary session to hear speeches delivered by various deputies.

They unanimously passed two resolutions, one ratifying the resolutions of the National Assembly Standing Committee, and the other endorsing the Political Report of the Council of Ministers.

A declaration issued by the National Assembly was approved by the deputies at the end of the 6th session, hailing the successes won in both zones of Viet Nam against the US aggressors. In this declaration, the National Assembly reiterated its support to the DRVN government's position, the 10-point overall solution of the PRG of the RSVN regarding the settlement of the Vietnamese problem, welcomed the Summit Conference of the Indochinese Peoples and voiced its support for the struggle of the Khmer and Lao peoples. It called on the American people as well, to come out strongly against the US imperialists and to demand that the latter immediately put an end to their aggression in Indochina. It finally urged the Vietnamese people and armed forces to step up the resistance to the US aggressors and to give all-out support to the struggle of the brother Khmer and Lao peoples.

SAMDECH NORODOM SIHANOUK HEAD OF STATE OF CAMBODIA, LEAVES HANOI

AFTER a two-week friendship visit to the DRVN, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, Princess Monique Sihanouk, Samdech Prime Minister Penn Nouth and his wife and the other Cambodian distinguished guests left Hanoi on June 8, 1970.

Many State leaders of the DRVN were present at the farewell ceremony which took place in Municipal Theatre Square, Hanoi, lavishly hung with Vietnamese and Cambodian flags.

On this occasion, President Ton Duc Thang delivered a speech. He said:

"At this time when you are leaving us, Madame Head of State, Madame Princess Monique Sihanouk, Samdech Prime Minister and Madame, and other Khmer guests, we feel a boundless

attachment. Every Vietnamese will for ever engrave in his heart the beautiful images of this fraternal visit: your words, Samdech Head of State, coming from the bottom of your heart, strongly encourage the Vietnamese people in their struggle against US aggression, for national salvation, and instill into them more affection for the seven million heroic Khmers and a stronger confidence in the comradeship-in-arms between them."

Visibly moved, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State, said:

"A two-week State visit is indeed an exceptionally long one. Nevertheless, had it not been for our fear of taking advantage of your generous, charming and flawless hospitality, we

(Continued page 5)

U.S. Neo-Colonialism in South Viet Nam: THE ECONOMIC WEAPON

by NGUYEN KUAN LAI

(Continued)

A SUPER-MARKET OF AMERICAN SURPLUS GOODS

THE Times of Viet Nam (unofficial mouthpiece of the Diem regime) wrote on Feb. 18, 1959 with some bitterness that the U.S. did not have granted in dollars or other foreign currencies to other foreign countries in which could be used at will, but in which (Saigon currency) from the "counter-part fund." To preserve this "fund," it is necessary to import only marketable goods and services (Saigon currency) from these are of course consumer goods.

However, it is not Saigon, but Washington which finalizes these import programs, i.e. the quantity, nature and even the date of delivery of the goods.

Ngo Dinh Nhu, Diem's brother, complained at a press conference in April 1957 that: "They (the Americans) have not asked us about our needs, and shipped out our commodities of all kinds, and even forced us to accept products from all countries" (that is US satellite countries).

In fact the Saigon Viet Nam's Economic and Financial Liaison Commission made it known on May 31, 1957 that "consumer goods and half-finished products made up 85 per cent of all US aid in 1956 (commercialized aid); the remaining 15 per cent consisted of capital goods.

The official statistics released by LSOM and the Saigon authorities in 1959 and 1960 supplied a confirmation:

Items	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Foodstuffs	13.8%	13.8%	13.8%	13.8%	13.8%
Raw materials	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%
Half-finished products	10.6%	10.6%	10.6%	10.6%	10.6%
Capital goods	13.8%	13.8%	13.8%	13.8%	13.8%
Consumer goods	43%	43%	43%	43%	43%

If we understand that the "half-finished products" are subject to little processing (in South Viet Nam) almost all these imports (85.4 per cent) are made up of consumer goods, the ratio of raw materials and capital goods being only 14.6 per cent. Here are some data (in tons):

Items	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Cotton goods	15,550	17,680	21,630	21,075	10,056
Sugar	38,731	55,660	55,660	49,578	49,578
Wheat flour	56,491	44,130	53,706	73,482	73,482
Powdered milk	26,245	23,045	16,974	17,291	17,792
Cigarettes	6,354	5,785	4,303	1,621	3,550
Vegetables and fruits	14,974	14,974	24,130	24,978	24,978

While surplus agricultural commodities were imported to the value of 6,563.5 million dollars from 1956 to 1961, only 1,496.7 million dollars (or 22.8 per cent) were earmarked for chemical fertilizers, seeds and agricultural machines.

Whereas the import of refrigerators, T.V. sets, sewing machines, motorized vehicles of various kinds, etc. swallowed up 6,538 million piastres during these five years, non-ferrous metals and hardware imported for industrial needs to the tune of 3,051 million piastres, represented 7.7 per cent of the an-

mal imports as against 23.8 per cent for the first category.

An important rubber-producing country, with an annual output of 79,612 tons from 1955 to 1963, South Viet Nam had to spend 2.5 per cent of her annual import budget on rubber goods, tyres in particular.

In the beginning, US goods were keenly competed by French products which had been well established in South Viet Nam market for a century. Only since 1950 could the US begin consolidating its position and supplant France which was closely followed by Japan.

In 1960, the US took measures to restrict tripartite exchanges between it, South Viet Nam and a third country which was in fact one of its satellites (limitation of supplies in "direct dollars", obligation to ship 50 per cent of American goods on board US cargoes) in order to gradually cut other countries. Since 1961, the US has virtually secured the monopoly of South Viet Nam market.

Whatever might be the label of the goods imported into South Viet Nam — "made" in France, in Japan or in the US — it was always Washington which profits by selling its surplus, say, to France, payable up to 60 per cent in French francs which are then put at the disposal of the French administration to import French products; the proceeds of the sale should be paid to the "counter-

part fund." The same process was applied to Japan, but the "direct imports" granted to that country were more important compared to France (16 per cent against 21 per cent in 1955).

With this "tripartite trade," the Americans killed two birds with one

In this dumping of American goods, what has become of South Viet Nam economy?

An agrarian country favoured by a tropical climate and a fertile soil, South Viet Nam is an exporter of foodstuffs: apart from maize, tea, coconuts, pepper, cinnamon, sugar, dried fish and crustaceans, etc. she would export from 1.4 to 1.5 million tons of rice, ranking third in the world after Burma and Thailand. With 47,700 tons of rubber exported in 1958 and 48,000 tons in 1959 (4.7 per cent of world exports), she was the fourth rubber producer in the world.

This shows the great possibility of her agriculture which, in an independent economy, would meet the needs not only of the population but also of the industrialization of the country.

But since 1954, the situation has become quite different.

Within the framework of the "Food for Peace" program, the US government agreed on June 17, 1958 with Ngo Dinh Diem the first "surplus agricultural commodities agreement" giving the South Viet Nam market to US surpluses. This "accord", renewed every year up to 1962, defined the modalities governing the "trading of agricultural products between the US and South Viet Nam" in such a way as to be detrimental to US traditional markets and the world price system of these products. This means plainly that it is forbidden for the US to sell its surplus agricultural products to its own people, especially rice, as not to compete with the US which must dispose of its stocks. In its issue of Sept. 13, 1958, the Times made it clear that the policy of ICA (i.e. the US government) was unfavorable to rice-growing in Nam Bo because the US has become an important rice-exporting country.

This agricultural check was quickly felt. From 1953 to 1959 the cultivated area varied between 2,170,000 and 2,542,000 hectares and rice production between 2,875,000 and 3,277,000 tons according to the year. These official figures, swollen of course, show that the area under rice covered only 90 per cent and rice production rose 12 per cent in the figures in 1952, an average year, while the population, let us not forget, increased at least by 50 per cent.

The credits earmarked for agriculture rose to 6.85 per cent of the State budget in 1957, 1.1 per cent in 1958 and 1.3 per cent in 1959. A rice-purchasing price system was set up involving various commercial firms: rice was sold by the peasants to "co-operatives" at a price always from 30 to 40 per cent below market price, thus discouraging all production boost.

Since then, the rice situation has further deteriorated. From 1961 onwards, the acreage of fallow land reached one million hectares or nearly 40 per cent of the total area under crop as admitted by the Saigon Senate Economic Commission.

What remained for export?

At a time when the food problem became acute in the world, South Viet Nam rice lost its traditional markets. The Saigon government managed to export from 1955 to 1959 130,000 tons a year. Since 1962 it began to

import that staple food. A big rice exporter in Southeast Asia, South Viet Nam has become now the biggest importer, and worse still, is reduced to begging for American rice.

The French weekly Tribune des Nations wrote on Jan. 26, 1962: "This year, Mr. Diem is contemplating importing 300,000 tons of rice." AFP reported on Feb. 10, 1962 that from 1965 to 1968, South Viet Nam has had to import an estimated 800,000 tons of rice annually.

That is not all. "Known for her rice production, South Viet Nam is obliged to consume what flour is basic food." The import of wheat flour amounted to 96,235 tons in 1957 and 1958.

The plight of industry was not better.

The invasion of American goods plunged industry and handicrafts into a serious crisis. The most threatened was the traditional and also the most important lines were textiles and sugar.

The importation of 100 million metres of textiles a year brought some ten thousand looms (1/3 of total) to a standstill and three thousands of workers and artisans into the streets. The workshops still in commission rubbed along with tens of millions of metres of cloth unused. Even the most modern enterprises such as Vinatexco, Vinatex, Sicoval, operating with American and Formosan capital, still had to close hundreds of tons of cotton yarn and tens of millions of textiles.

Sustaining the competition of some fifty thousand tons of sugar imported per year sold at 12 piastres a kilogram as against 10 piastres per kilogram for local sugar — the total local consumption being about 70,000 tons a year — 10,000 sugar mills had to close down, and the farmers in Eastern Nam Bo and Southern Trung Cao were forced to burn their sugar cane fields.

The paper mills and most of the tobacco curing mills ceased to function (the remaining tobacco enterprises worked at two-thirds of their capacity), as the market was swamped with these American commodities.

In the first eight months of 1960, 784 enterprises (52.2 per cent being handicrafts) went bankrupt or changed their activities. The only "thriving" economic sector is trade, for in all colonial countries (old or new type) nothing is more remunerative than the import and retail trade of foreign goods. In 1950, it was responsible for 20 per cent of the national income as against 21 per cent for agriculture and 10 per cent for industry. Trading firms were mushrooming: according to official figures, in Saigon-Cholon alone, they accounted for 10 per cent of the total of enterprises of all kinds, a rise of 77 per cent over 1957.

Even in this branch all is not plain sailing, when the other sectors are in the slump. The more there are imported goods, the more storehouses are crammed with "surplus" commodities:

565,000 tons in 1957
636,000 tons in 1958 and
705,000 tons in 1959.

ECONOMIC crisis, rule of agriculture, decline of industry and handicrafts have been the harm done to South Viet Nam by US aid. It is a matter of course and inevitable, as the US did not spend billions of dollars for the sake of Diem and consorts.

Next issue: Political Camouflage

On the occasion of its 45th founding anniversary, the National Liaison Committee of Vietnamese Patriotic and Peace-Loving Catholics has decided to sum up its activities and laid down future tasks. Following is an account of the work of that conference.

THE National Liaison Committee of Vietnamese Patriotic and Peace-Loving Catholics was set up on March 11, 1955, after the establishment of the State. Continuing the patriotic traditions of its predecessors, chiefly the Catholic Resistance Movement, Association, it addresses itself, at present, to the task of broadly spreading the Vietnamese Catholics to work for national construction and reunification of the country.

Since its outset, it has strongly denounced the manoeuvres of the enemy. In fact, before withdrawing, the French armed forces blew up or trapped with mines the churches and seminaries occupied by them during the resistance war. Worse still, the US Diem Clique left no stone unturned, from bluff to coercion, to trigger a massive migration of Catholics to the South.

The National Liaison Committee of Vietnamese Patriotic and Peace-Loving Catholics helped the Catholics rebuild their war-damaged land. Groups of workers co-operated with guerrillas to remove barbed-wire entanglements and mines and restore places of worship. Some fighters even died in the accomplishment of their duty. Materials were supplied by the State to rebuild over 200 churches. In many localities, followers of other religions lent their Catholic fellow-countrymen a helping hand. For social solidarity between various religions was strengthened.

In urban centres, after the period of economic re-habilitation and transformation came socialist industrialization. Unemployment has been eradicated. The living standard of the worker has been improved and his political status has changed for good. His political and economic master of his workshop. In the new social regime, power is in the hands of the working class.

It is this peaceful construction work and progress to which the Catholics have made a large contribution that the American pilots wanted to destroy. That is why, together with the laic people, the Catholics have risen up at one rush against US aggression.

CATHOLICS AND THE REST OF THE PEOPLE FACING US AGGRESSION

In the beginning, some Catholics believed that the US aggression would not bombard the churches and the latter could serve as A.A. shelters.

But facts soon proved to be quite the opposite. In four years, US planes destroyed or damaged 17 churches (including 5 cathedrals), 3 seminaries and many convents; killed 4 priests (including a bishop coadjutor) and wounded 2 priests and one vicar, and inflicted many casualties among the clergy, nuns and believers.

Believers of all creeds should, as citizens, fulfil their obligations towards the Fatherland and the State. Nobody has the right to make use of religion against the law.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH in DRVN

For the Catholic peasants as for the others, a man must old dream come true: "land to the tillers." At the end of 1958, agricultural co-operation was started. Like other farmers, Catholic peasants joined co-operatives in bigger and bigger numbers.

The people's power actively helped the Catholics rebuild their war-damaged land. Groups of workers co-operated with guerrillas to remove barbed-wire entanglements and mines and restore places of worship. Some fighters even died in the accomplishment of their duty. Materials were supplied by the State to rebuild over 200 churches. In many localities, followers of other religions lent their Catholic fellow-countrymen a helping hand. For social solidarity between various religions was strengthened.

Everywhere one can see a past, injuries and maternity-homes, crèches, clubs, etc. Illiteracy has been liquidated and the cultural level of the Catholic peasants has now risen.

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P. Village, Quang Binh province, inhabited by Catholic fishermen, was struck 4,400 times. Holy places, houses, fruit gardens were left in ruins. Mr. Kim, a delegate of the village, said: "We are not afraid of US imperialism. We've downed American planes, captured their pilots, set afire commando boats... Despite a fierce war, our production has not stopped. Thanks to the impulse given to production, during the war we delivered a greater quantity of food-stuffs than previously. Many

young Catholics have joined the army or other national defence services."

Everywhere, in Catholic villages, militia units were set up to take charge of people's defence and coastal defence. In some localities, as in Nam Ha province, Catholic militia units have promoted collective heroes of people's armed forces; the two militia units of P. village, Quang Binh province, and militia platoon K. of Kim Son district, Ninh Binh province.

Everywhere, Catholic youth volunteered to fulfil all tasks. Tens of thousands of them have enlisted in the army or shock youth units. Hung Seng, a small Catholic village in Hai Ha district, Nam Ha province, was awarded a medal for having 200 youths with the colours.

Catholic women assume new responsibilities. Taking the place of enlisted men, they look after housework, take up important jobs in co-operatives and rural administration.

Even old-agers and children offer their service to production and national defence.

May war time, agricultural co-operation made headway in Catholic areas. At present, over 80 per cent of Catholic peasants have joined co-operatives many of which have exceeded the 5-ton per hectare annual rice output. Most of them are in the van of the production movement in their localities.

Significantly enough, many Catholics have been cited labour heroes: Truong Van (agriculture), Dao Thi (industry), Nguyen Van (transport and communication), Nguyen Van Chieu (industry).

The priests and their flocks have taken part in the construction work. They have been quite active in the anti-US struggle. Formerly we preached, but it was like sowing the seeds of faith in the bushes. Socialism has cleared these bushes for us.

The testimonies of other delegates, priests or believers, were in the same vein.

Since the August Revolution, life has been constantly improved. Believers and priests have been living better. Formerly we preached, but it was like sowing the seeds of faith in the bushes. Socialism has cleared these bushes for us.

The testimonies of other delegates, priests or believers, were in the same vein.

Facts have shown that last fifteen years that respect for freedom of belief has been a constant government policy, that socialism has been making considerable material life of the Catholics, and has purified their spiritual life. The liquidation of the exploitation of man by man and the collective work resulting from co-operation and mutual aid have made it possible for the Catholics to translate into facts the Christ's teachings of justice, fraternity and charity.

Imperialism has laid bare its face as an aggressor who deflects religion from faith, ethics and honour.

Imperialism has laid bare its face as an aggressor who deflects religion from faith, ethics and honour.



Nguyen Thi Xuan, a Quang Binh Catholic militia woman who has downed one F-4H with 21 bullets of a light weapon

A glowing truth: the North Vietnamese Church has followed the path charted by President Ho Chi Minh. "For the independence and freedom of the Fatherland, for the happiness of the people." The delegates to the 15th founding anniversary of the committee of Vietnamese Patriotic and Peace-Loving Catholics observed its 15th founding anniversary this year.

On this occasion the committee held an enlarged meeting attended by 120 delegates including 47 priests from all dioceses.

Discussions were held on issues from the agenda as: socialism and Catholicism; regions of imperialism; imperialism; the road followed by North Vietnamese Church.

Taking the floor at the conference, K. Xuan, delegate of Quang Binh, said: "We have lived under two regimes. Under the old one we suffered a lot of misfortune. Apart from the shame of servitude, we experienced many privations in temporal life. Ha Tinh was one of the regions hardest hit by famine. Some of its nobles planned to war. The Vietnamese priests were not well treated. The colonialist missionaries lorded it over us. Between them and us, there was quite a gap. To follow the imperialists was to experience the afflictions of slavery."

At the end of the conference, a solemn rally was held in 650 priests, believers of the South Viet Nam people and shown their solidarity with the patriotic priests and believers in the South.

Before an enthusiastic audience, K. Xuan, Vice-President of the Committee, appealed to all the Catholics to strengthen their unity within the National United Front and to work with might and main for socialist construction and economic development.

**GIFTS
To Cambodian
Red Cross Society**



Along with their invasion of Cambodia, the American imperialists have feverishly been trying to "Vietnamize" the war in Viet Nam the hope of prolonging it and of maintaining their military occupation of South Viet Nam and perpetuating the partition of Viet Nam. Even in May, they mounted savage air strikes against Quang Binh and Ngai provinces, grossly violating the US commitment to halt all bombardments against the DRVN.

President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam
TOM DUC THANG

Head of State of Cambodia
Samdach NORODOM SIH

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia and President of the National United Front of Kampuchea (UNFK), on May 3 issued a statement to the House of Representatives of the US. We give below excerpts of the statement:

CONCERNING the televised address of June 3, 1970 of Mr. Nixon, President of the USA, I am duty-bound to make the following statement:

1) Mr. Nixon was making fun of the world when he spoke of violation of Khmer neutrality by the army of the PUNK which includes in its midst not only communist elements but also a great number of nationalists, democrats, and patriots.

that Cambodia, under the "reign" of Lon Nol, has become a colony with an army as a threat to her territorial integrity, her borders and her territorial waters and airspace are thoroughly violated by these three bodies, and that it is not in next July that Cambodia will recover her independence and territorial integrity, the territorial integrity that the governments in Saigon and Bangkok, in deciding on the occupation without a limit of one-third of our provinces by their armed forces, have imperiously promised to restore to a "memory."

As for the neutrality of our country, how can one speak of it now, when the Lon Nol regime has entered into alliance with the regimes

until the complete liberation of their Fatherland and, side by side with the brother Vietnamese and Lao people, will continue to fight till US imperialism and its lackeys are completely driven out of our Indochina.

5) Mr. Nixon has affirmed that "We take this action not for the purpose of expanding the war into Cambodia but for the purpose of ending the war in Viet Nam."

And with this utter cynicism which is characteristic of him, he argues that his gangster manner constitutes "the best means to achieve a just peace."

First of all he should be reminded that in the eyes of the whole world he has actually "expanded" the war into Cambodia and to the

LAOS Lao Patriotic Forces Liberate All Saravane Town

WITH the assistance of the local population and the co-ordinated militias of a number of army units of the Vientiane administration, the regional armed forces and guerrillas sprang a surprise attack on the night of June 8 on the enemy in Saravane town (Lower Laos), and completely liberated it after three hours' fighting. KPL reported.

Right at the start, the Lao Patriotic Forces struck at the headquarters of the Saravane military sub-sector and the "BV-41" battalion HQs. The colonel commander and a deputy-commander of the Saravane sub-sector were killed. A major part of the "BV-41" battalion was wiped out, and many among the remnants surrendered.

The Lao patriots also ferreted out the rest inside Saravane and its surrounding areas.

According to initial reports, more than 500 enemy troops were put out of action, a US warplane shot down, and hundreds of firearms including many heavy guns, and a large quantity of war supplies, captured.

Announcing this fresh action, Pathet Lao Radio said that "this is a decisive punishing blow dealt at the US imperialists and their stooges who are actively preparing to commit GIs, Saigon puppet troops and Thai mercenaries to the Saravane area, in implementation of the scheme to widen the US war in Lower Laos."

"Should the US and its quislings stubbornly refuse to give up this plot of theirs, they would receive more stunning blows wherever they commit crimes against the Lao people," the broadcast warned.

DRVN SETS UP DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SOMALIA

The DRVN Foreign Ministry issued on June 7 the following communiqué:

"DESIROUS of strengthening the friendly relations between the two countries, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Somalia have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level."

FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY HANDS MONETARY AID TO VIET NAM

THE Central Committee of the French Communist Party has handed to representatives of the DRVN Provisional Revolutionary Government in France a sum of one hundred million (old) francs collected in the past two months in support of the Vietnamese people's struggle against US aggression.

A ceremony to this effect was held at the Party's HQ on June 5 and attended by Georges Marchais, Deputy Secretary General, Raymond Guyot and G. Pissoneir, members of the Political

Bureau of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party, and others.

Handing the sum to Tran Viet Dung, acting Delegate General of the DRVN, and Ha Thanh Lam, Vice-Director of the REVN FRO Information Bureau, G. Georges Marchais said that in face of the intensification and expansion by the US of its aggressive war in Indochina, the French Communist Party would continue to militate for the French people's increased support to the Vietnamese people and the other peoples in Indochina in their resistance against US aggression.

South Viet Nam 130 Enemy Coastal Bases and Positions (between Da Nang and Cam Ranh) Stormed in One Night (June 3)

* Night of June 2, in Mekong Delta: Enemy position at Nui Dai (Chau Doc province) flattened the second time in 30 days, 300 enemy casualties and 10 cannons and mortars destroyed, Cai Von CP (Vinh Long province) assaulted, 3 puppet companies and 2 platoons wiped out.

* Night of June 6, in Plain of Reeds: My An CP razed, 200 puppet soldiers put out of action, 4 cannons wrecked, 4 choppers downed.

* June 8, near the 17th Parallel: Mai Lanh CP attacked, 200 puppet troops annihilated.

POLITICAL REPORT

(Continued from page 8)

are hundreds of thousands of technical workers whose assignment and use should be improved further: in order to get higher labour efficiency."

Reporting the progress of socialist construction in the North, Prime Minister Phan Van Dong said: "

"About one year and a half since the end of 1968, besides fulfilling its great tasks in the struggle against US aggression for national salvation, North Viet Nam has had to cope with many natural calamities. In such circumstances, the work already done to eliminate the aftermaths of the enemy's fierce air war of destruction, restore and develop economy and culture, are important achievements which should be appraised correctly."

Dealing with the 1970 State Plan, Premier Phan Van Dong laid down the following tasks:

"To push up the production of agricultural products and consumer goods, considering it the main direction of the State plan. To develop the local economy and at the same time restore and develop the centrally-run economy all-ideally and steadily, restore and develop light industry and food-processing industry, small industry and handicrafts. On the other hand, to restore and boost the production of a number of the most important heavy industry branches, restore and develop communications and transport. Together with the development of production, attention must be paid to the completion of socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts and small trade and to the improvement of the circulation and distribution of goods."

"To most fully and in time the requirements of the frontlines."

"To improve step by step the people's living standards, first and foremost in the cities and industries, to attach importance to the care for the health and labour of the working people. Attention must be paid to the good implementation of policies toward the families of army men, disabled army men and war dead."

"To consolidate the rear steadily, strongly and comprehensively, increase the economic and national defence potentials, see to public order and security, get ready to fight and to win in every circumstance."

PREMIER Phan Van Dong devoted the third and last part of his report to the "struggle on the international and diplomatic front." He said:

"Our people's dauntless struggle has gradually laid bare what may be termed as the inherent contradictions of US imperialism, its fundamental weak points and inevitable collapse."

"Only realism more and more clearly that the US imperialists have failed because they have waged a war of aggression against a valiant people, against a socialist country, in the era of the decline of imperialism, the era of victory of the world's peoples' revolutionary cause."

Premier Phan Van Dong went on: "Due to the failure of the US imperialists in their war of aggression against Viet Nam, the US has gradually been driven into an ever more serious crisis. Since Nixon took office, that crisis has rapidly reached its highest peak for many years, and has affected every facet, political, economic, financial, social, of the American people's life."

"The US no longer holds absolute supremacy in the imperialist camp as previously, instead, it is meeting with ever stronger rivalry. The tendency to independence and neutrality keeps developing in the countries allies and satellites of the US, weakening or paralyzing the Western military and political alliances, lowering further the US position in the world."

Meanwhile, the national liberation movement and the struggle for consolidation of national independence have been forging ahead, dealing hard blows at imperialism and old and new colonialism, especially US imperialism."

"In face of such failure and predicament, the US ruling circles now have to resort to such new propaganda plays and tricks as

'Nixon doctrine' and 'new strategy for peace', to implement their counter-revolutionary global strategy."

"This fact marks a clear change in the balance of world forces in favour of the revolution. It explodes the US imperialists' unlimited potential myth and at the same time shows the absurdity and trickery of the US imperialists who still refuse to renounce their role as international gendarme and their neo-colonialism, and to give up their dream of world domination."

Dealing with the Paris Conference, Premier Phan Van Dong blamed the US side for its stalemate after nearly 70 sessions. It is US "imperious obstinacy" allied to US "criminal aggression" which is strongly condemned by the peoples in the world, especially in the US.

Premier Phan Van Dong went on:

"In our struggle, we are gratified at the lofty tokens of sympathy from the peoples of the world, the socialist countries and the US. Ours is the era of revolution, that of the struggle against US imperialism. This struggle is remarkable by its fierceness but also its irreversible victorious trend. There is no more typical example than the dramatic confrontation between the US imperialists' aggressive policy and our people's national liberation effort, in which our enemy has let out his cloven hoof and his dark and odious design, while our people have been fighting with might and main, that is with all their finest moral qualities. There can be no more vivid illustration of the truth that man and his community called nation who fight stubbornly along a correct line, are fully capable of defeating the most formidable aggressive forces in history. This war has made the world's peoples gradually alive to the threat posed by US imperialism to all countries, a danger against which they must fight directly to safeguard their interests. Universal support to the cause of the Vietnamese, Khmer and Lao peoples has gradually become a national drive in all countries against US imperialism."

The DRVN Prime Minister paid homage to the world's peoples, to

70th Plenary Session of Paris Conference
on Viet Nam (June 11, 1970)

TALKS AGAIN STALL

LIKE at previous sessions, the American and Saigon puppet delegates harped upon the same string, trying to cover up US aggressive policy in Indochina and whitewash the high treason of the Thieu - Ky - Khieu clique.

In the name of the DRVN government delegation, Mr. Nguyen Minh Vy once again castigated US intervention and aggression policy in the Indochinese countries for sixteen years now. He once more warned them of the inevitable total collapse awaiting them.

personalities from all walks of life who have joined a united front in support of the Vietnamese, Khmer and Lao peoples fighting against US aggression.

He said: "The Vietnamese people staunchly support the brother Khmer and Lao peoples, and will strictly fulfil the sacred commitments mentioned in the joint declaration of the Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference regarding the independence, peace, neutrality, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Cambodia within her present borders, and guaranteeing all the national rights and political regimes of the Khmer and Lao peoples."

The Prime Minister also reaffirmed the backing of the Vietnamese people to the movement of various countries and peoples for independence, democracy, peace and socialism, as well as their determination to strengthen the bonds of solidarity and friendship with these countries and peoples.

At the end of his report, Premier Phan Van Dong brought out in relief the role of the DRVN - which will soon be 25 years old - in Viet Nam's present struggle against US imperialism.

He said: "We must give proof of our firm revolutionary will, our industriousness and our creative labour to build and strengthen the Socialist North in all respects, for the sake of the fundamental interests of the Northern people, of the liberation of the South and peaceful reunification of the country, in order to discharge our obligations towards our Indo-Chinese neighbours and world's peoples."

"More than ever our people must toughen their determination to fight and to win, and enhance the conviction that 'nothing is more precious than independence and freedom', surmount all difficulties and hardships, strengthen their solidarity with the Khmer and Lao peoples in the resistance against US aggression, perseveringly keep up their fight on the military, political and diplomatic front, by relying on the strength of our militant unity, while trying to enlist more and more efficient support and assistance from the world's peoples."

"Mr. Nixon Shows a Cynicism Unworthy of a Head of State"

States Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK
To the Press

The intervention by US and mercenary forces in Cambodia constitutes a flagrant violation, condemned by all the peoples of the world including the American people, of my country's neutrality, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Mr. Nixon and the USA also cynically violate international law by meddling most overtly in the international affairs of another country.

The "Vietnam sanctuaries" pretext does not hold water. In this connection I would like to draw the attention of the international public to the very clear and very truthful statement of Senator William Fulbright: "The Nixon administration war by proxy in Cambodia to prop up the Lon Nol Government... It is equally clear that the purpose of this proxy military campaign is not to eliminate communist border sanctuaries... but to sustain the feeble Lon Nol military regime in Phnom Penh."

4) It is a cynicism unworthy of a Head of State to make believe that the pro-US regime in Phnom Penh has made "efforts" "to maintain the neutrality, independence and territorial integrity of Cambodia."

The whole world knows, as American senators of good faith have pointed out, that the traitor Lon Nol has done everything to deprive his country of its neutrality, independence and territorial integrity to the benefit of US neo-colonialist imperialism and the pro-US regimes in Saigon and Bangkok.

most notoriously aligned with the USA (Saigon, Bangkok, Taipei, Seoul, etc.), and when the only self-styled "non-aligned" governments supporting it answer to the names of Djakarta and Kuala Lumpur?

5) Mr. Nixon claims that by intervening in Cambodia he wants to save the lives of his troops in South Viet Nam.

This cynicism is beyond comparison because no Indochinese nation has ever provoked the US army. The presence of this army in South Viet Nam has never been provided for or recognized by the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Indochina.

If Mr. Nixon wants to save the lives of his troops, the only thing he has to do is to respect the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Indochina and bring home immediately and unconditionally all his armed forces. And then one of our Indochinese peoples will think of pursuing the Yankee troops as far as America.

4) Mr. Nixon has gone all the length of his cynicism and cowardice by threatening our people with the worst military retaliations if they will not let the Lon Nol regime alone after the withdrawal of US troops from Cambodia next July.

It is certain that despite the disproportion of forces, the Khmer people, with their right and their just cause, and also with the effective support of the other peoples, particularly the glorious and heroic Vietnamese people, will not be cowed by this threat.

They will continue to fight

The whole world knows

POLITICAL REPORT

By Premier PHAM VAN DONG



In the first part of his report, Premier Pham Van Dong summed up the "situation of the struggle against US aggression, for national salvation since early 1969." He pointed out the successive setbacks suffered by the aggressors who had been forced to change strategy while trying to achieve their old neo-colonialist dream.

The Prime Minister then bared Washington's dark designs behind its "Vietnamization."

"1) Regarding the withdrawal issue, the US claim for conditional pull out and the very niggardly piecemeal cutbacks effected by Nixon prove that the US wants to occupy South Viet Nam for a long time, and use US troops as a prop to continue its war of aggression.

"2) The US is feverishly backing up the puppet army, bolstering the Thieu-Ky - Kham puppet administration and leeching aid on the latter in many fields not only for immediate but also long-term needs, in the hope of utilizing them as an effective tool for the realization of the above design.

"3) Both the US and puppets though suffering repeated setbacks, are doing their best to carry out their 'pacification' program by more and more cruel and savage methods.

"Clearly enough, 'Vietnamization' of the war means prolongation of the war and, in some respects, stepping up the US war of aggression in South Viet Nam.

"Moreover, it is closely linked to the US intensification of the 'special war' in Laos, and recently, to the expansion of the US aggression to Cambodia."

The Prime Minister served a serious warning on the US imperialists:

"Who sows the wind will reap the whirlwind! Storms of anger are descending upon them in Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos, in many other places in the world, and right in the United States."

After stressing the historic significance of the Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference, Mr Pham Van Dong remarked that the present juncture was very favourable to the Indochinese peoples:

"Contrary to his expectations, the enemy has supplied the peoples of the three Indochinese countries with favourable conditions to push up steadily and all-sidedly their liberation fight both qualitatively and quantitatively. The brazen US aggression against Cambodia also constituted an insolent challenge to the world's peoples. The latter have given and will give them relevant answers. The US imperialists them-

selves have revealed their true features and consequently the world's peoples are resolutely opposing them and supporting the peoples of the three Indochinese countries.

"In short, we are now witnessing new and very auspicious developments in Viet Nam, Indochina, Asia and the world. We must know how to turn them to account, overcome difficulties and impel forward the struggle in our country, in Indochina and in the world, and in the United States as well. At the same time, we must be keenly alive to the new audacious manoeuvres and acts of the US imperialists, their allies, satellites, and henchmen, stand ready to fight and foil them."

Premier Pham Van Dong explained the wonderful advantage of the US in Cambodia as a move prompted by the heavy failure of Mr Nixon's "Vietnamization" policy in Viet Nam as seen by many observers. He spoke of the progress of our people's resistance in South Viet Nam since Nixon's coming to power: The 'South Viet Nam patriotic forces have delivered to the US troops, now falling back onto the defensive, hard blows, thus breaking their efforts to reduce their damage in order to placate public opinion hostile to the Viet Nam war; the puppet troops who must become Nixon's main instrument to realize his "Vietnamization" plan, have met with serious reverses: since early 1970 they have taken over 100,000 casualties.

Along with wiping out considerable American and puppet manpower, the people's armed forces in the South have struck hard at logistic bases and war means, which are considered the props and magic wand to bolster up the sinking morale of US and puppet troops.

The quantity of war means, aircraft, tanks, artillery pieces, warships and combat launches destroyed or damaged in 1969 was bigger than and, in some cases, double the 1968 figures.

The enemy's "pacification" program has been foiled in many places and in every one, the poor results obtained through violence and cruelties are likely to be nullified.

"The plight of US troops in South Viet Nam is worsening," Premier Pham Van Dong went on. "American troops there have increasingly realized that their lives are at stake in Nixon's desperate chess game. Such actions as disobedience of orders, mass sickness, refusal of tasks, signing of collective anti-war petitions, readiness to face the military court or prison instead of fight-

ing, have occurred in many units."

The position of the puppet army is still worse.

Desertions and disintegrations were rife in 1969: 180,000 army-men left the puppet army or were disbanded.

The economic and political situation of the Saigon puppet regime went from bad to worse, the movement of the urban population against Thieu-Ky-Kham grew more and more stubborn.

With regard to the liberated areas, despite the attacks of the enemy, they became more and more consolidated and developed in all respects in a bit to carry the day.

Premier Pham Van Dong ended the first part of his report with the conviction that the US imperialists will be defeated and the Vietnamese, Cambodian and Lao peoples, bound by their militant solidarity, will certainly win total victory.

The second part of the Premier's report dealt with the "achievements of Socialist North Viet Nam in national defence and construction."

Premier Pham Van Dong first recalled the significant victory of the North over the US war of destruction from 1964 to 1968:

"Despite US escalation with its 100,000 air raids and more than a million tons of bombs of all kinds, the Northern people achieved an extraordinary feat: preserving and strengthening the forces of the North in all fields.

"Many Western observers admirably described these exploits as an epic of man's courage and intelligence.

"The defence forces of the North became stronger, its various services and arms grew fast morally and organizationally, were furnished with better equipment and techniques and tempered themselves in the fierce fighting...

"While putting up a stubborn struggle, our people have endeavoured to limit losses to the socialist economy, kept communications and transport running, developed agricultural and industrial production in accordance with war-time conditions and continued the revolution in the production relations, developed and consolidated agricultural co-ops, improved the circulation and distribution of goods, tightened the control of money and prices, met all requirements of the great front, and catered to the basic needs of the people's life."

"Since early 1969," Premier Pham Van Dong pointed out, "Social-

ist North Viet Nam has endeavoured to wipe out the aftermath of the war of destruction in all fields, rehabilitated and begun to develop economy and culture, getting ready to settle big and complicated problems on the way to take the North from small production straight to socialism.

"The national economy has made initial, though still slow, progress and in some fields, has recorded substantial results. The total of social products, agricultural output and industrial output in 1969 were higher in the war years. The main items such as paddy and subsidiary crops, pigs, electricity output, coal, cement, textiles, paper... began to increase."

He then summed up the accomplishments of various economic branches and remarked:

"At present, when the whole country is concentrating its efforts on impelling the struggle against US aggression, for national salvation, the people though still having to face difficulties in their life are provided with the basic necessities and their living conditions are in some aspects improved. This is a great effort and notable achievement of ours."

"Since early 1969, the educational, cultural and medical services have continued to develop as satisfactorily as in war-time and have been consolidated qualitatively step by step.

"General education now includes more than 1,050,000 children in kindergartens and infant classes, over 4.5 million pupils, and more than one million people attending full-time or part-time complementary classes. Compulsory primary education has been carried out in the delta and midland provinces. The bulk of grassroots cadres and young peasants and workers have finished the first degree and is now in the second (elementary education - Ed.) degree.

"The training of scientific and technical cadres has developed vigorously, and there are now 36 colleges and faculties of university level with nearly 80,000 students. Socialist North Viet Nam now boasts a contingent of scientific and technical cadres of over 600 doctors and assistant doctors, nearly 50,000 university graduates and over 160,000 vocational school graduates. Besides, there

(Continued page 7)